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Ref  
623-0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Ivan Hargro et al..                      Art Unit : ---  
Serial No. : --    Examiner : ---  
Filed : April 12, 2000  
Title : MODULE AND METHOD FOR INTRODUCING A SAMPLE INTO A  
CHROMATOGRAPHY COLUMN

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 4, please insert the following:

Reference to Related Applications

This application is a division of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/137,278, filed  
August 20, 1998, <sup>now U.S. Patent No. 6,139,723</sup> the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference. ✓

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-3, and 8-15.

Please amend the claims as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL

Express Mail Label No. EL258935722US

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.10 that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Post Office to Addressee with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit April 12, 2000

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